

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Twenty-Second Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Twenty-second Middlesex Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.2% (310) reside in the Twenty-second Middlesex Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (58) of Twenty-second Middlesex Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 72.5% of admissions from the Twenty-second Middlesex Representative District were male and 27.4% were female.
- Over 70.2% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 91.2% of admissions were white non-Latino, 0.6% were black non-Latino, 4.5% were Latino, 0.3% were Asian and 3.23% were other racial categories.
- 65.1% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 16.7% were married, and 12.9% reported not to be married now.
- 21.2% of admissions had less than high school education, 50% completed high school, and 28.7% had more than high school education.
- 35.4% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 6.1% of those admitted were homeless.
- 14.8% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Twenty-second Middlesex Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Twenty-second Middlesex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	319	259	98	90	66	74	59
FY '96	256	207	88	64	42	92	59
FY '97	271	210	90	59	40	85	57
FY '98	309	237	94	74	25	78	59
FY '99	315	240	109	82	41	82	56
FY '00	330	261	94	71	26	86	56
FY '01	310	232	96	46	16	102	54

- Since dropping in FY 1996, residents of Twenty-second Middlesex Representative District reported an increase in alcohol and marijuana use. Alcohol use increased by 12% and marijuana use by 9%.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting heroin use increased by 37%, while cocaine and crack use decreased by 48% and 75%, respectively.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Twenty-second Middlesex Representative District.

Table 2 Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	52.5%	27.7%	7.7%	0.3%	1.9%
State	46.4%	35.9%	6.5%	3.8%	3.4%

- While heroin, cocaine and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol and marijuana was higher within your District.